

CLASSIFICATION	SECRET		25X1
COUNTRY	East Germany	REPORT	25X1
OPIC	Military Activities in Rathenow and Third Shock Army Posts		
EVALUATION		PLACE OBTAINED	25X1
DATE OF CONTENT			25X1
DATE OBTAINED		DATE PREPARED	31 January 1955 25X1
REFERENCES			
PAGES	2	ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)	
REMARKS			
This is UNEVALUATED Information			

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1. At 0830 on 9 January 1955, a column of 10 to 12 x 85-mm AT guns, 20 trucks and approximately 100 soldiers left the Flak Kaserne (2000) in Brandenburg and went toward the town. It is possible that the AT unit was absent until 12 January.
2. At 0610 on 14 January, 12 x 85-mm AT guns and 12 trucks occupied by soldiers left the Flak Kaserne in Brandenburg and went toward the town.<sup>1</sup>
3. At 0715 on 10 January, 14 x 37-mm AA guns, approximately 30 trucks and 300 soldiers were seen en route toward Stendal. The column came from a westerly direction.<sup>2</sup> At noon 30 trucks including some loaded with beams, 8 trucks with closed superstructures, 4 field kitchens, 2 ambulances and approximately 400 soldiers entered the Taubentzien Kaserne (5584) in Stendal. The column came from a southwesterly direction.<sup>3</sup>
4. At 0500 on 10 January, a column which consisted of 6 radio trucks, approximately 30 trucks with signal equipment, fuel drums and approximately 200 soldiers left Stendal and went toward Jahrburg. The column returned from the same direction at about 1100.

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5. On 12 January, it was learned in Perleberg, that the Kech office in Schwerin had ordered the preparation of Camp Schweinrich between 17 and 23 January for a large-scale exercise which was allegedly to be held at the Wittstock training grounds after 23 January. Reconditioning work included repair work and the installation of 180 iron stoves. Since the commander-in-chief of the Soviet troops in Germany, reportedly was to participate in the exercises, a number of new pieces of furniture had been bought in Schwerin on 13 January. No information on the date of beginning or the duration of the exercise was available.<sup>4</sup>

Prior to 14 January, the Artillerie Kaserne (5341) in Perleberg was heavily occupied. Colonel Baroshenko (fnu), commanding officer, and

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Lieutenant Colonel Marstaller (fnu), supply officer, were stationed in the installation. In early January, up to 3 T-34 '85 tanks [redacted] and SU-100 gun [redacted] were repeatedly observed leaving the installation for the post training ground. Between 11 and 14 January night exercises were held by units from the kaserne between 2100 and 0500. The exercises involved tanks, AT guns and other heavy weapons. On 14 January, 4 x 85-mm and 4 x 57-mm AT guns and about 12 trucks with soldiers carrying full field equipment were seen.<sup>5</sup>

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7. Prior to 14 January, the Fliegerhorst Kaserne (5342) in Perleberg was still heavily occupied. The officers previously identified there were still stationed in the installation.

8. [redacted] 25 one-story brick buildings, worth approximately 5 million eastmarks, were to be built at the Wustrow AAA firing range. The new buildings were reportedly earmarked for Soviet units which were to vacate their previous quarters at Wustrow for KVP. The date of the beginning of the project was not known.<sup>6</sup>

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9. At 1320 on 21 January, 8 medium rocket launchers were entrained at the Rathenow Nordbahnhof and left toward Neustadt at 2010. [redacted]

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10. During the night of 12 January, a firing practice which involved rocket launchers, mortars and artillery pieces from the Rathenow post was held in the KVP training area Kietz-Ferchels-Mahlitz. In the morning of 13 January, 24 mortars were seen returning to the Infanterie Kaserne (5441) in Rathenow.<sup>8</sup>

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1. [redacted] Comment. Units of the 20th Army AT Arty Brig may have transferred by road to Altengrabow for firing practices.

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2. [redacted] Comment. It is undetermined whether AAA elements of the air force from the Stendal-Borstel airfield or elements of the 953d AAA Bn of the 207th Mtz Rifle Div were involved. Observations in Tangermuende tended to indicate that the battalion did not return to its old installation in Tangermuende after the fall maneuvers. The assumption was supported by information from Stendal, according to which the battalion appeared to be quartered in emplacements near the Hindenburg Kaserne (5581), probably as protection of the Hq LXXIX Mtz Rifle Corps.

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3. [redacted] Comment. On 10 January, units of the 890th Indep Engr Bn of the LXXIX Mtz Rifle Corps or the 338th Engr Bn of the 207th Mtz Rifle Div may have returned to the Taunitzien Kaserne. The signal column, which was observed on the same day, may have belonged to the U'i Sig Bn of the 207th Mtz Rifle Div.

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4. [redacted] Comment. It remains to be seen whether the exercise at the Wittstock training grounds will involve elements of the IX Mtz Rifle Corps or the Second Gds Mec Army.

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5. [redacted] Comment. As was also observed [redacted] units of the 56th Mecz regt or the 18th Mecz Div conducted night exercises in the vicinity of the posts in early and mid-January. The SU-100 gun seen with the tank battalion of the regiment again indicates that such battalions in the Soviet Zone are equipped with several SP guns. During the preceding months, up to 3 SP guns were observed with 4 mechanized regiments in the zone.

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6. Comment. The vacation of quarters at the Wustrow AAA firing range for KVP units is reported for the first time.

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7. Comment.

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The shipment is believed to have left for Altengrabow, rather than toward Neustadt.

8. Comment.

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Since, however, a firing practice of units of the 6th Arty Div at the KVP training grounds appears improbable, it had been assumed that the firing units belonged to the KVP which conducted exercises at the training grounds after early January. It is also possible that the night firing practice was held as a demonstration for KVP units.

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